

them this spring was on April 6, when I saw four, and again on April 16, when I saw two. Since then I have visited some of their most favorite haunts a number of times but have failed to note a single one. They were very common last year, lingering with us until late in November. I am inclined to believe that the exceptionally cold winter has been very hard on them, in depriving them of their food supply.

Early on the morning of March 24, 1895, a large 'bird wave,' composed of Geese, Swans, and Ducks got lost, or became bewildered by the electric lights (a dense fog prevailing in this valley at the time) and flew about the city for a couple of hours before they could get their correct bearings. There must have been thousands of them judging from the noise they made.

Of late years this is getting to be a common occurrence during their spring migrations. I have in my collection a fine specimen of the Long-tailed Duck, which I found dead on the door-step one morning, after one of these flights, it probably having flown against the house.—H. C. KIRKPATRICK, *Meadville, Pa.*

Nantucket Notes.—Nantucket, Mass., August 26, 1894. I shot to-day a Wilson's Snipe (*Gallinago delicata*) which was feeding among a flock of Peeps on the shore of Hummock Pond. A short time after I shot a Stilt Sandpiper (*Micropalama himantopus*) from this same flock of Peeps. I saw in addition another specimen which had been taken in the same locality two days before.

November 6, 1894, I shot two female Mallards (*Anas boschas*); they were in company with some Black Ducks (*Anas obscura*), but seemed to feel out of place, keeping a little apart.

November 1. Twenty-five Broadbills (*Aythya marila nearctica*) seen at the Long Pond to-day. November 8, I saw a flock of *Somateria dresseri*, seven females, later three males, in Nantucket Sound. In a letter received from Mr. Vinal N. Edwards, dated Woods Hole, Mass., Jan. 16, 1895, he informs me, that from the 1st to the 5th of November, 1894, the wind had been strong S.W. to W.; the week previous it was N.E. to S.E., cloudy and rainy. On Nov. 5, 1894, the first American Eiders (*Somateria dresseri*) of the season were noted by him, — a flock of thirty-seven. By the 27th about one thousand had collected, but the gunners drove them away, and the weather being so moderate they remained in the Sound to feed. On Jan. 15, 1895, there were about one thousand in the Hole but they only remained about two hours.

Nantucket, April 10, 1895. Mr. Charles E. Snow informs me that he saw to-day on the Ram Pasture a Bartramian Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*) and drove within twenty yards of the bird. This is the earliest spring record I have ever heard of in this vicinity.—GEORGE H. MACKAY, *Nantucket, Mass.*

Notes on Some Connecticut Birds.—*Uria lomvia*.—A few of these northern birds entered the Connecticut River in December, 1894. Two

were killed at Essex on the 11th of that month and sent to me. At Portland, three were seen Dec. 14, and five on the 22d—specimens being taken at each date which are in my collection. I have never seen Brünnich's Murre in this immediate vicinity before.

Porzana noveboracensis.—Three specimens of this rarely seen Rail were shot here during September and October, 1894.

Ceophlœus pileatus.—Mr. Gurdon Trumbull tells me that a Pileated Woodpecker was seen at Granby, Conn., during the early part of the winter of 1894-95. It was followed a mile or more and fully identified but was not captured. This bird was in practically the same locality where one was killed Nov. 1, 1890 (Auk, X, 1893, 371).

Vireo philadelphicus.—A female was taken here September 17, 1894, by Mr. Samuel Robinson and is in my cabinet. It was found among some large willows on an island in the Connecticut River, and shot within a few feet of the spot where he killed a specimen September 21, 1893 (Auk, XI, 1894, 181).—JNO. H. SAGE, *Portland, Conn.*

Bird Notes from St. Albans, Vermont.—The Brünnich's Murre (*Uria lomvia*), so far as my knowledge goes was first found here in December, 1892, at which time specimens were easily procured and added to the cabinet. They came in large numbers to St. Albans Bay, an arm of Lake Champlain, some three miles from town, during the winter of 1892, returning in the winter of 1893, when a specimen was shot on the 13th of December. In January, 1894, another specimen was shot in Richford, an inland town bordering on the Canada line. In the past December they came by thousands, the lake seeming, in places, fairly swarming with them. One sportsman shot 200, and each gunner brought more or less of them to town, many of which were taken alive. Those who have shot them say they are so tame one can almost catch them in their hands. They are in poor condition, apparently starving, and very many have been frozen into the ice and chopped out by fishermen.

The Florida Gallinule is also supposed to be of rare occurrence in Vermont, but for the past twenty years it has been common about Lake Champlain, breeding here also, as it is a regular autumn experience to come upon them with their young.

The Great-crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*) is also supposed to be of rare occurrence, the only record being from C. S. Paine of Randolph. I can echo Dr. Merriam's words, "that now it is certainly a really common bird," not only in Connecticut but in northern Vermont as well. Not only has nearly every piece of woods its 'Great-crest,' but I see it beside the roads, occasionally, in my drives.

Wilson's Stormy Petrel (*Oceanites oceanicus*) has also been taken here, and, what is still more surprising, an elegant Meadowlark was given me the 6th of January last. It had been about the doors of a neighbor's house hunting for food and resting at night in willow trees that overhung the piazza; its fearless confidence in humanity meeting the